

Barbara L. Geddis, FAIA

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Wilton CT. 06897

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RE: H.B. No. 6590 (RAISED) AN ACT CONCERNING CERTAIN PROTECTIONS FOR GROUP AND FAMILY CHILD CARE HOMES. – IN OPPOSITION

We oppose this bill to allow Group or family child care "home" to be permitted within any residential zoning, including in single family and multi-family homes and rentals as long as they are properly licensed.

Discussion: This type of protective setting has very specific locational criteria. I am very familiar with these types of settings which my architectural firm has planned and designed. The capacity, age of the children, the staffing profiles, the medication profiles where relevant, the hours of operation, how arrival and departure works, the kind of "day that is being designed" all are affected by the setting and site. This is not an arena that legislators ought to insert themselves and require mandatory across the board rules.

We further oppose the deletion of Section 9e: This deletion allows the towns to exempt municipal property from the zoning regulations unless the municipality decides to impose them. Almost of the towns in Fairfield County have opted out of this parking mandate.

Discussion: We do not understand why Hartford continues to fail to distinguish between cities, town, suburban towns and rural towns and villages. This is one of the historic strengths of Connecticut that it has such variety of densities due to topography, natural attributes, roads and history.

Why should parking be mandated across the board due to unit size regardless of locations. It is irrational.

Our town is well advanced in a thoughtful master planning effort, balanced and attentive to detail.

It continues to be disheartening that our state continues to venture where it should not go. Instead of celebrating our strengths, Hartford wants to crush our distinguishing features.

There are so many issues you should focus upon this term: our appalling monopolistic utility costs, the state of our federal highways, the deterioration of our rail resources. There seems no attention at all to the framework of what will allow this state to survive.

Sincerely.

Barbara L. Geddis, FAIA